

SWRCB Groundwater Workshop

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Selected Groundwater Management Legislation

California Water Code Sections 10750 et seq.

- 1992 - AB 3030 – GW Management Plans
- 2000 - AB 303 – Local GW assistance grants
- 2002 - SB 1938 – Required elements in GW Management Plans to be eligible for grant funds
- 2009 - SBX7 6 – GW elevation monitoring (part of 2009 comprehensive water package)

Recommendations to Improve Groundwater Management in California

1. Promote public education regarding groundwater
2. Improve understanding of California groundwater basins
3. Improve collaboration and coordination among State, federal, tribal, local, and regional agencies and organizations
4. Increase availability and sharing of groundwater information
5. Strengthen and expand the CASGEM Program for the long-term
6. Assess SB 1938 groundwater management plans
7. Develop guidelines to promote groundwater BMPs
8. Develop analytical tools to assess conjunctive management
9. Increase Statewide groundwater recharge and storage

Actions

- Advance Integrated Water Management
 - No transfer of impacts between regions
 - Regions accept responsibility for assessing risk due to climate change, population growth, groundwater overdraft, etc.
 - Develop IRWM Plans to manage risk appropriately
- Develop and adopt stronger standards for local/regional groundwater management plans for sustainable groundwater management
- Consider legislation needed to provide needed local/regional authority.

Conclusion

- An interagency groundwater coordinating committee would be helpful to assist local entities manage their groundwater while considering impacts to surrounding regions and the state as a whole.